

# **Georgia Department of Revenue**

# Candler County Local Ad Valorem Tax Facts

Caution: By viewing the web pages at the Georgia Local Government Services Division's website, taxpayers should obtain a general understanding of the property tax laws of Georgia that apply statewide. This page contains local information about a specific county. While every attempt has been made to include everything a taxpayer needs to know, mistakes are possible and taxpayers should contact their local tax officials for verification and clarification of the information found on this page. Information on this page was current as of 05/09/2014.

### LOCAL TAX OFFICIALS

#### Tax Commissioner

Patty Sikes Courthouse Square 35 S W Broad St., Ste D Metter, Ga. 30439 (912)685-5247 Fax: (912)685-4829

Email: pattysikes@pineland.net

#### Chairman of the Board of Tax Assessors

Charles Collum Courthouse Square 35 S W Broad St., Ste E Metter, Ga. 30439 (912)685-6346 Fax: (912)685-3818

**Chief Appraiser** 

Marian Grier Courthouse Square 35 S W Broad St., Ste E Metter, Ga. 30439 (912)685-6346 Fax: (912)685-3818

Email: MGrier@candlerco-ga.gov Website: http://www.candlertax.org/

# **Chairman of the Board of Commissioners**

Glen Thrift

1075 E. Hiawatha Street Metter, Ga. 30439 (912)685-2835 Fax: (912)685-4823

Website: http://www.metter-candler.com/index.aspx?nid=868

**PROPERTY TAX RETURNS** Property tax returns must be filed with the Candler County Board of Tax Assessors between January 1 and April 1 of each year. The taxpayer may elect not to file a property tax return if there have been no changes that would affect the value of their property from the previous year.

Click the links below for more information on property tax assessments and filing tax returns:

http://www.etax.dor.ga.gov/ptd/adm/taxguide/geninf.aspx http://www.etax.dor.ga.gov/ptd/adm/taxguide/payment.aspx

HOMESTEAD EXEMPTIONS The deadline for filing for an application for homestead exemption in Candler County is April 1.

Application for homestead exemption is made with the Board of Tax Assessors in the county. Failure to apply by the deadline is considered a waiver of the exemption for that year.

There are no local homestead exemptions offered in this county, but the taxpayer can make application for the statewide homestead exemptions. Click the link below for more information on homestead exemptions:

http://www.etax.dor.ga.gov/ptd/adm/taxguide/exempt/homestead.aspx

FREEPORT LEVEL ONE EXEMPTIONS Candler County voters have elected to exempt the following types of commercial and industrial inventory:

- Class 1 Raw materials and goods in process of manufacture 100% exemption
- Class 2 Finished goods produced in Georgia within the last 12 months 100% exemption
- Class 3 Finished goods stored in Georgia within the last 12 months and destined for shipment out-of-state 100% exemption

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The City of Metter has also elected to exempt 100% of all qualified Level 1 freeport inventory.

The deadline for filing an application for freeport exemption with the Board of Tax Assessors is April 1 to receive the full exemption. For more information on freeport exemptions click the link below:

http://www.etax.dor.ga.gov/ptd/adm/taxguide/exempt.aspx

**AD VALOREM TAX PAYMENTS** Taxes are normally due in this county by December 20 of each year but the law allows taxpayers 60 days from the date of mailing before interest may be charged. Ad valorem taxes are collected by the Tax Commissioner.

Additionally, a penalty of 10% will apply to all taxes that are not paid within 90 days of the deadline. For more information on tax payment deadlines click the link below:

http://www.etax.dor.ga.gov/ptd/adm/taxguide/payment.aspx

**VALUATION APPEALS** If the assessors disagree with the taxpayer's returned value, they will change the value and a notice of assessment will be sent to the taxpayer. If the taxpayer wishes to appeal the change, the appeal must be sent to the Board of Tax Assessors and postmarked no later than 45 days from the date of the notice. Beginning 01/01/11 all taxable real property will be sent a notice of assessment. For more information on the procedure to file an appeal click the link below:

http://www.etax.dor.ga.gov/ptd/adm/taxguide/appeals.aspx

**AD VALOREM TAX REFUNDS** If a taxpayer discovers they have paid taxes that they believe were illegal or erroneous, they may request a refund within 3 years of the date of payment. The claim for refund should be filed in writing with the Board of Tax Assessors within three years after the date of payment. For more information on the procedure to file a claim for refund click the link below:

http://www.etax.dor.ga.gov/ptd/adm/taxguide/refunds.aspx

**MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATION** Candler County is on the 12-month staggered registration system. Vehicle tags are sold at the Courthouse. Hours are Monday - Friday, 8:30 - 5:00.

Vehicle owners must renew their registration and pay the ad valorem tax every year with the Tax Commissioner during the 30 day period which ends on their birthday. If the vehicle is owned by more than one person, then the birthday of the person's name that appears first on the title is used to determine the registration period. Newly acquired vehicles must be registered within 30 days. Motor vehicles purchased on or after March 1, 2013, and titled in this State are exempt from sales and use tax and annual ad valorem tax—also known as the "birthday tax." The taxes are replaced by a one-time tax that is imposed on the fair market value of the vehicle called the Title Ad Valorem Tax Fee (TAVT).

For more information on motor vehicle ad valorem taxation click the link below:

http://www.etax.dor.ga.gov/ptd/cds/mvman/index.aspx

#### MOBILE HOME TAXATION

**Mobile Home Location Permits** Taxpayers locating a mobile home in Candler County must apply to the Board of Tax Assessors for a location permit within 30 days of permanent placement of the home in the county and then annually thereafter between January 1 and May 1. Mobile homes that are temporarily located in the county and are owned by a business that is not located in the county should notify the Board of Tax Assessors of their presence to avoid being cited for failure to apply for the location permit.

The county also has a local ordinance requiring a permit before a mobile home is brought in, moved within, or leaves the county. These permits are applied for with the Board of Tax Assessors also. Currently the penalty for failure to obtain this permit is \$100.00. No mobile homes older than 10 years old will be permitted to come into the county, and only one mobile home is permitted per parcel of land. (Certain exceptions apply)

**Mobile Home Returns** Owners of mobile homes that are located in the county on January 1 must return the mobile home for taxation to the Board of Tax Assessors on or before May 1 of each year at the same time they apply for the location permit. For more information on mobile homes click the link below:

http://www.etax.dor.ga.gov/ptd/adm/taxguide/mobile.aspx

**INTANGIBLE RECORDING** Every holder of a long-term note secured by real estate must have the security instrument recorded in the county where the real estate is located within 90 days. In Candler County the Clerk of Superior Court is responsible for collecting intangible recording tax. The Clerk's office can be contacted at:

P.O. Drawer 830 Metter , Ga. 30439 (912)685-5257

The tax for recording the note is at the rate of \$1.50 for each \$500.00 or fractional part of the face amount of the note. For more information on the intangible recording tax click the link below:

http://www.etax.dor.ga.gov/ptd/adm/taxguide/intrec.aspx

## OTHER INFORMATION

Local Ordinances There are no local ordinances pertaining to ad valorem taxation.

Fees for Garbage, Ambulance and Landfill The Tax Commissioner is responsible for collecting fees for landfill, ambulance, and polycart collection fee. These fees are set by the County Commissioners each year and billed on your ad valorem tax bill as separate line items.

Independent School Systems There are no independent city school systems in this county.

City Tax The Tax Commissioner is responsible for collecting city ad valorem taxes on real and personal property.

This webpage is a service provided by the Georgia Department of Revenue, Local Government Services Division. Comments or questions about this page should be directed to: <a href="mailto:Local.Government.Services@dor.ga.gov">mailto:Local.Government.Services@dor.ga.gov</a>

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www.etax.dor.ga.gov

www.etax.dor.ga.gov/ptd/county/index.aspx

www.etax.dor.ga.gov/ptd/County/LGS Local Property Tax Facts for the County of Candler.pdf

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